

**Rowan County**



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Rowan County Health Department  
1811 East Innes Street – Salisbury, NC 28146-6030**

**Drinking Water Wells in the Vicinity of Coal Ash Ponds**  
April 28<sup>th</sup> 2015

The Coal Ash Management Act of 2014 mandated the testing of water supply wells within 1000 feet of coal ash ponds in the State of North Carolina. One of those facilities is located at Buck Steam Station off Long Ferry Rd. Sampling was done in early 2015 with results just recently released.

So far, thirty two wells in the vicinity of Buck Steam Station have tested above allowable limits for various parameters. These well owners have been advised to not drink or cook with their water. Further testing will be done on wells previously sampled that were not analyzed for the correct detection threshold during initial testing.

Testing may be expanded to 1500 feet from the coal ash pond. If so, sampling will begin in the coming weeks. For people living near the facility, but outside the testing zone, the State Laboratory of Public Health is developing a test kit for coal ash constituents which will be offered through the Rowan County Health Department, Environmental Health Division. This test should be available in two to three weeks. Please contact the Rowan County Health Department, Environmental Health at 704-216-8525 for test kit availability.

For additional information:

Inquiries about health risks should be directed to Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch (OEEB) at 919-707-5900.

Inquires about sampling, testing, analysis, source determination, and remediation should be directed to NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NC DENR) at 919-807-6464.

Inquires from the Media should be directed to DHHS, Office of Communications at 919-855-4840.

Information about private well drinking water contaminants can be found on the Well Water and Health website: <http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/oeep/programs/wellwater.html>